

Inventors: Loeb et al.
Serial No.: 09/972,834
Filed: October 4, 2001
Page 9

Applicants point out that new claims 51-95 recite polymerase mutants issued in parent application serial No. 08/978,806, now U.S. Patent No. 6,395,524. For the Examiner's convenience, attached as Exhibit A is a table showing the correlation between the polymerase mutants recited in new claims 51-95 and the claims issued in U.S. Patent No. 6,395,524.

Regarding the Restriction Requirement

The Restriction Requirement indicates that the claims have been restricted into the following two groups:

Group I : Claims 1-15, drawn to methods of identifying thermostable polymerase mutants; and

Group II : Claims 16-20, drawn to mutated polymerases.

In light of the cancellation of claims 1-20, it is respectfully submitted that the Restriction Requirement has been rendered moot. Regarding the species election, Applicants point out that the polymerase mutants recited in new claims 51-95 have been examined and issued in parent U.S. Patent No. 6,395,524, and it is respectfully submitted that a search of these previously issued polymerase mutants would not present an undue burden.

Inventors: Loeb et al.
Serial No.: 09/972,834
Filed: October 4, 2001
Page 10

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent or Cathryn Campbell if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

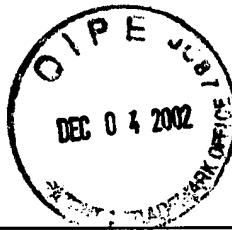
New Claim in 09/972,834	Previous Claim in Patent No. 6,395,524
51	16
52	17
53	18
54	19
55	20
56	21
57	22
58	23
59	57
60	58
61	59
62	60
63	61
64	62
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66	64
67	65
68	66
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71	69
72	70

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New Claim in 09/972,834	Previous Claim in Patent No. 6,395,524
73	71
74	26
75	72
76	73
77	74
78	75
79	76
80	77
81	78
82	79
83	80
84	81
85	82
86	83
87	84
88	51
89	24
90	25
91	52
92	53
93	54
94	55
95	56